

February 21, 1975

Dear Mr. Ford:

Honorable Harold Ford
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

February 21, 1975

Dear Mr. Fauntroy:

Honorable Walter E. Fauntroy
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

February 27, 1975

Honorable Donald M. Fraser
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Fraser:

Because of your interest in the subject of police surveillance of political activities, I am enclosing the attached memorandum. I hope you will give us your support.

Julius W. Hobson

Enclosure

February 28, 1975

Honorable James J. Florio
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Florio:

Because of your interest in the subject of police surveillance of political activities, I am enclosing the attached memorandum. I hope you will give us your support.

Julius W. Hobson

Enclosure

March 4, 1975

Ms. Claudette Ford
Suite 605
1730 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Ms. Ford:

I am writing to say that Mr. Hobson gives
his permission to use his Saturday Evening Post
article "Is Uncle Sam a Bigot" in the BLK Equal
Opportunity Workshop.

Sincerely,

Paul Sanders Brown
Staff Assistant

March 1, 1938

Mr. C. L. ...

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March 4, 1975

Ms. Claudette Ford
Suite 605
1730 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

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Sincerely,

Paul Sanders Brown
Staff Assistant

April 18, 1975

Ms. Koko Farrow, Chairperson
Social Justice Task Force
Council of Churches of Greater Washington
Executive Offices
1230 Vermont Avenue, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Ms. Farrow:

I am very sorry I will not be able to participate on the Community Panel to hear testimony from the witnesses on South Africa and U.S. corporate involvement, and help make recommendations to the community for appropriate action on April 23rd.

Thank you for the invitation.

Julius W. Hobson Sincerely,

Julius W. Hobson
Councilmember

April 18, 1975

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Social Justice Task Force
Council of Churches of Greater Washington
Executive Offices
1238 Vermont Avenue, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20005

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Thank you for the invitation.

Sincerely,

Julius W. Hobson
Councilmember

Council of Churches of Greater Washington



28 March 1975

Executive Offices • 1239 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20005 • 202/638-1077

Julius Hobson, Sr.
D.C. City Council
District Bldg.
14th & E. St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Hobson,

The Council of Churches of Greater Washington wishes to call on you for service to the April 23rd Community Inquiry on U.S. Corporate Involvement in South Africa. Since its announcement, the community inquiry has evidently touched a resonant chord in the soul of our city. A wide variety of community leaders from social interest groups, government, labor, and church have enthusiastically endorsed the inquiry as individual co-sponsors. (see attached list)

The Council of Churches is now inviting your participation on a Community Panel, consisting of a broad representative selection of various community constituencies. It is our sincere hope that you will consider accepting a seat on this panel to hear testimony from the witnesses on South Africa and U.S. corporate involvement, and help make recommendations to the community for appropriate action.

The potential of this community based inquiry is substantial: 1) it deals with a topic of utmost importance to Washingtonians - the liberation of racially oppressed Africa; 2) it provides an invaluable forum for education and social action; 3) it brings together a diversity of community constituencies to consider this common concern; and 4) it provides other communities in the U.S. with a model of community action on social issues.

The format of the inquiry is designed to draw on a substantial range of expertise for the benefit of both the panel and the community. Testimony will reflect both consideration of the contemporary complexities of apartheid, and an examination of the specific activities of four U.S. corporations.

RECEIVED

APR 10 1975

Julius Hobson, Sr.
Councilmember-At-Large

FORMAT

U.S. Corporations & Apartheid
Focus: Control Data, IBM, ITT, & Motorola

Time: 7:00pm - 11:00pm, Wednesday, April 23rd

Place: Washington, D.C. City Council chambers

Schedule: 7:00pm - 8:00pm film "Last Grave at Dimbaza" (if available)
8:00pm - 11:00pm testimony

Testimony

- A. Changes in Southern Africa
 - a Congressman or Congressional aide will be invited
- B. The South African Economy
 - Jennifer Davis, exiled South African economist
Research Director, Africa Fund, New York
- C. Corporate Testimony
 - Control Data, IBM, ITT, and Motorola have been invited
- D. Investment and Apartheid : CDC, IBM, ITT, and Motorola
 - Timothy Smith, Projects Director
Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility, New York
 - Larry Gordon, Human Rights Project Coordinator,
Action for World Community, Washington, D.C.
- E. Liberation
 - representatives from the African National Congress and
various individual South Africans are being invited

After the inquiry, the panel will be charged with drafting a Resolution for Common Community Action to help provide our community with direction for involvement. The community panel's guidance on an issue of such natural concern to Washingtonians will undoubtedly help direct the growth of local activity on apartheid.

The challenge to make this effort a success is important when we consider that Washington is more than just another city. As a community we are our nation's Capital, the major Black American city, a locale with a high degree of international visibility, and a town that knows the tribulations of imposed rule. As a community our responsibilities are many, and our actions important.

In the following days we will be in communication with you on this invitation and will provide any additional information you might require.

Sincerely,



Koko Farrow
Chairperson
Social Justice Task Force

737-2000

Council of Churches of Greater Washington



29 March 1975

Executive Offices - 1239 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20005 - 202/638-1077

INDIVIDUAL CO-SPONSORS OF THE COMMUNITY INQUIRY (organization names for identification only)

Rev. Harry Applewhite, Area Conference Minister, UCC Potomac Assoc.
Richard J. Barnet, Institute for Policy Studies
Marion Barry, D.C. City Council
Josephine Butler, D.C. Statehood Party
Charles Cassell, Chairman, OPEN (Organization for Political Equality Now)
Benjamin Chavis, Director, UCC Commission for Racial Justice, Wash. office
David Clark, D.C. City Council
Charles Cobb;Sr., UCC Commission for Racial Justice
Courtland Cox, S.A. Project, Center for National Security Studies
William Davis, Director, National Jesuit Conference
Rev. Carl Dianda, St. Teresa's Church
Rev. David Eaton, All Souls Church
Gretchin Eick, Chairperson, UCC S.A. Task Force
Dr. Therman Evans, D.C. School Board
Hon. Walter Fauntroy, U.S. Congress
Ed Guinan, Community for Creative Non-violence
Sr. Charlotte Hannon, Vice President, D.C. Council of Women Religious
Thomas Hargrave, General Executive, YMCA of Metropolitan Washington
Roy Johnson, Chairman, GUARD (Government Employees United Against Racial Disc.)
Eloise Jones, Chairman, Downtown Cluster of Congregations
John Jones, Acting Executive Director, Adams Morgan Organization
William Jones, Black Vote Coalition
Fr. Raymond Kemp, D.C. School Board
Msgr. Ralph Kuehner, Director, Office of Social Development, D.C. Archdiocese
Edgar Lockwood, Director, Washington, Office on Africa
Francis Kornegay, Jr., Washington Task Force on African Affairs
Melvin A. McCaw, Director, African American Institute, Wash. office
Rev. Douglas Moore, D.C. City Council
Rev. Jerry Moore, D.C. City Council
Virginia Morris, President, D.C. School Board
Fr. John Mudd, Assistant Director, Office of Social Development, D.C. Archdiocese
Mary Jane Paterson, Acting Director, United Presbyterian Church, USA, Wash. office
Jeremy Rifkin, Coordinator, Peoples Bicentennial Commission
William Sanders, D.C. Black Assembly
William Simon, President, D.C. Teachers Union
Daniel Sheehan, Attorney, National Jesuit Conference
Sam Smith, Editor, D.C. Gazette
Sterling Tucker, Chairman, D.C. City Council
Dr. Ronald Walters, Howard University; African Heritage Studies Association
Fr. William Wendt, St. Stephen and the Incarnation Church
John Wilson, D.C. City Council
Nadine Winter, D.C. City Council
Fr. Jack Wintermeyer, Newman Center, George Washington University

April 22, 1975

Ms. Mariko Fukuda
News Assistant
WMAL-TV
The Evening Star Broadcasting Company
4461 Connecticut Avenue Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Ms. Fukuda:

Enclosed is a black and white photograph of Councilmember Hobson. I am sorry we did not have a 5 x 7 color photo, as you requested.

I hope this photograph will suit your needs.

Sincerely,

Paul Sanders Brown
Executive Assistant to
Councilmember Julius W. Hobson

Enclosure

WMAL TV
The Evening Star Broadcasting Co.
4461 Connecticut Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008
(202) 686-3000



10 April 1975

Julius W. Hobson, Sr.
District Building
14th & E Street, NW
Washington D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Hobson:

We are compiling pictures of people
in the news and would greatly
appreciate it if you could send us
one of yourself...we would like a
color photo, 5" x 7".

Thank you very much and hope to be
hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Mariko Fukuda
News Assistant

RECEIVED

APR 14 1975

Julius Hobson, Sr.
Councilmember At-Large

WMAL TV

The Evening Star Broadcasting Co.
4461 Connecticut Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008

Julius W. Hobson, Sr.
District Building
14th & E Street, NW
Washington D.C. 20004





COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20004

May 5, 1975

Dr. Hardy R. Franklin, Director
Public Library
Room 400
901 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Dr. Franklin:

It has come to my attention that the District of Columbia Public Library does not honor neighboring jurisdiction's library cards. The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments coordinates the "universal system" which allows for reciprocity of lending services in Montgomery, Prince George's, Fairfax and Prince William Counties and the City of Falls Church. According to an article in the Washington Post of 14 April 1975, there is a legal complication which would prohibit our participation.

What are your policies with regard to exploring such participation by the District of Columbia? Can you identify what legal obstacles could be addressed to allow for our participation? I would like a report on the subject, including background information, and a summary of your contemplated plan of action by May 15, 1975.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

JULIUS W. HOBSON
Councilmember-at-large

MONDAY, APRIL 14, 1975

The Washington Post

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Around Town

Branching Out

Chances are you hadn't planned any special observance of "National Libraries Week," which we're told is now under way, but if you hold a card it may interest you to know that efforts are under way to expand its usefulness. Already, there are five jurisdictions around town that honor each other's library cards: Montgomery, Prince George's, Fairfax and Prince William Counties and the city of Falls Church. Because of a legal complication, however, the District isn't a party to the "universal" card system arranged under the auspices of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. In view of the program's success so far, we hope that the D.C. city council and Congress will work out a way for the city to join in.

? can and should we do something?

May 5, 1975

Dr. Hardy R. Franklip, Director
Public Library
Room 400
901 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Franklin:

Please provide me with a list of your Advisory Committee's members and their mailing addresses, if available. I am compiling a mailing list and would like to include these persons on both the Council and the Committee on Education, Recreation and Youth Affairs' lists. If you can provide me with a copy of these listings, I would be most appreciative.

Sincerely,

JULIUS W. HOBSON
Councilmember-at-large

May 22, 1975

Mr. Albert Fritsch
Center for Science in The Public Interest
1779 Church Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. Fritsch:

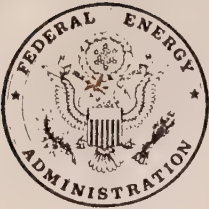
Enclosed is a copy of a notice of public hearing on returnable beverage container legislation which is being held by the Committee on Transportation and Environmental Affairs. Either you or your organization may wish to testify before the Committee or submit a written statement. The hearings are scheduled for June 4 and 5, 1975 at 10:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m., and 7:30 p.m.

The hearings concern a topic that is of vital importance to the whole issue of solid waste management and the environment, and I invite you to testify. If you wish to give testimony you should contact Ms. Gwen Bohlke at 638-2223 or 629-3806 before 5:30 p.m. on June 2, 1975.

Sincerely,

JULIUS W. HOBSON
COUNCILMEMBER AT LARGE

Enclosure



FEDERAL ENERGY ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20461

27 MAY 1975

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Julius W. Hobson
Councilmember at large
Council of the District of Columbia
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Hobson:

Your letter of May 2, 1975, to Mr. Zarb and the enclosed study entitled "Resource Recovery Engineering and Economic Feasibility Study for Either a 650 to 1300 Ton Per Day Processing Facility at the I-95 Resource Recovery, Land Reclamation, and Recreation Center" has been forwarded to my office for response. I will address your three specific questions first.

"Is the system presented in the NCRR's feasibility study the most up-to-date in terms of the energy recovery technology now available?"

As you indicate in your letter, there are several different approaches to resource recovery. Because there is little operational experience with any resource recovery system (with the exception of water wall incinerators), there is at present no hard data to say one system is demonstrably superior to any other system for all sets of circumstances. I note that you have sent a letter to the Environmental Protection Agency which is sponsoring and evaluating demonstrations of various approaches to resource recovery. They are in a more knowledgeable position than FEA to respond to this question. It should be noted that the system proposed for the District allows for complete resource recovery, both materials and energy.

RECEIVED

MAY 29 1975

Julius Hobson, Sr.
Councilmember-At-Large

"The resource recovery system presented in the NCRR feasibility study appears to be the type being built for the city of New Orleans which has proven economically incompatible with returnable beverage container legislation. Does the returnable beverage container legislation save energy?"

A great deal of work has been done with respect to estimating the energy impact that beverage container legislation would have. Most of these studies have concluded that elimination of one-way beverage containers would save energy. Critics of these studies maintain that the authors have ignored new container technologies, the impacts which container legislation would have on resource recovery, and the fact that the energy savings were based on unrealistic assumptions about the elimination of cans and the life expectancy of a refillable bottle.

Recognizing the controversial nature of these studies, FEA contracted with Research Triangle Institute for a study to examine the energy and economic impact of bottle legislation. This study, which should be completed in early August, will extend the existing work on this subject including the points mentioned above. We will send you a copy when it is completed.

"What other types of resource recovery facilities presently being marketed are compatible with beverage container legislation and would be more cost effective?"

One specific task of the Research Triangle Institute study is to evaluate the economic impact that bottle legislation will have on resource recovery. It is clear that any legislation that reduces the amount of metals and glasses from the waste stream will have some adverse economic effect on any resource recovery system designed to recover such materials. Whether the effects are significant or not is to be determined.

With respect to your question, "whether the District of Columbia should place more emphasis on energy recovery . . . ," let me say that it is the Federal Energy Administration's policy to encourage as much productive utilization of the energy in the solid waste stream as is economically viable, either through recycling materials or by direct recovery of energy as appropriate. We, therefore, applaud the District of Columbia's efforts in attempting to undertake resource recovery.

Concerning your request for technical assistance, unfortunately FEA does not have the staff to provide direct technical support. However, Mr. Morris Zusman, program manager for solid waste, is knowledgeable in this area and could be helpful in providing advice. You may reach Mr. Zusman in the Office of Energy Conservation and Environment at 961-8067.

Also, with respect to your inquiry about the study that FEA, EPA and TVA are jointly funding, one requirement of the contract is for TVA to put on a seminar presenting the study results to the entire electric utility industry. Personnel from the local utilities will be receiving invitations to the seminar.

Thank you for your interest in energy conservation.

Sincerely,



Dennis W. Bakke
Deputy Assistant Administrator
Energy Conservation and
Environment

May 29, 1975

Mr. Rockwood H. Foster
3047 Westlane Keys, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007

Dear Mr. Foster:

Enclosed is a copy of a notice of public hearing on returnable beverage container legislation and copies of two "bottle bills" currently under consideration by the City Council. Because of your interest in this area you may wish to testify before the Committee on Transportation and Environmental Affairs or submit a written statement. The hearings are scheduled for June 4 and 5, 1975 at 10:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

The hearings concern a topic that is of vital importance to the whole issue of solid waste management and the environment in the District. I cordially invite you to testify. If you wish to give testimony you should contact Ms. Gwen Bohlke at 638-2223 or 629-3806 before 5:30 p.m. on June 2, 1975.

Sincerely,

Julius W. Hobson
Councilmember at large

Enclosures

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Washington, D.C. 20007

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Sincerely,

Julius W. Hobson
Councilmember at large

Enclosures



June 16, 1975

Honorable Walter E. Fauntroy
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Fauntroy:

I am sorry Mrs. Hobson and I were unable to attend the farewell reception you hosted for Harley J. Daniels on June 24th.

Thank you for your invitation.

Sincerely,

Julius W. Hobson

Mail Routing Slip

Date: _____

6/4/75

To: Councilmember Julius Hobson

Comments: _____

) _____

Pat Miner: _____

Lou Aronica: _____

Sandy Brown: _____

RECEIVED

JUL 5 1975

Julius Hobson, Sr.
Councilmember At-Large

Lorraine McCottry _____

pls regret

THE HONORABLE WALTER E. FAUNTROY

Invites You To

Attend A Farewell

RECEPTION

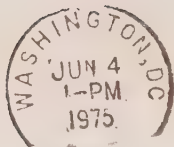
For

HARLEY J. DANIELS

The Caucus Room, 345 Cannon H.O.B.

Tuesday, June 24, 1975

From 6 To 8 P.M.



Hon Julian Habron, Jr.
Bluebird Building
14th + E Sts, N.W.
Wash. DC 20004

REP. WALTER E. FAUNTROY
326 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BLDG.,
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

August 7, 1975

Ms. Jean Farrow, Director
Community Organization
Washington, D.C. Field Office
1330 Massachusetts Avenue, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Ms. Farrow:

Thank you for your letter of July 18, 1975, and the copy of the excerpt from the Congressional Record where Congressman John Conyers calls attention to the Wilmington Ten.

I appreciated your taking the time to forward this to me.

Sincerely,

Julius W. Hobson
Councilman at large





UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

COMMISSION FOR RACIAL JUSTICE

287 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10010, Tel. (212) 475-2121, Sub. 520

RECEIVED

JUL 22 1975

Julius Hobson, Sr.

CHARLES E. COBB
Executive Director

July 18, 1975

COMMISSION

T. Willard Fair
Chairperson

Mrs. Donald Powers
Vice Chairperson

Mrs. Pearlie Evans
Secretary

Edward N. Cahn
Mrs. Durham Caldwell
Joseph M. Copeland
Edwin R. Edmonds
John C. Mickle
Miss Carolyn Moody
William B. Oliver
S. Garry Oniki
Samuel Parham
John C. Stahler
Miss Jacqueline Turner
William T. Wilson

STAFF

Mrs. Marilyn E. Moore
Assistant Director

Mr. Irv Joyner
Director
Community Organization

Mrs. Toni Ardelle Killings
Director
Higher Education

The Reverend John Lane
Interim Director
Program Development in the
White Constituency

Mr. Jimmy McDonald
Director
Research, Information
and Education

Mr. Julius Hobson, Sr.
D.C. City Council Member
District Building
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Councilman Hobson:

Please find enclosed the June 20th Congressional Record excerpt where Congressman John Conyers calls attention to the Wilmington 10. Also enclosed are two letters of personal expression from Mr. Conyers to the Reverend Benjamin Chavis (one of the 10 defendants) and myself.

Best regards,

KoKo

Jean Farrow
Director
Community Organization
Washington, D.C. Field Office

JF:dm

Enclosure II

Benjamin Chavis, Director
Washington D.C. Field Office
1330 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 737-2600

Leon White, Director
North Carolina-Va. Field Office
P.O. Box 1721
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601
(919) 833-3071

CONYERS CALLS ATTENTION TO
THE WILMINGTON 10

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 1975

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, the City Council of Washington, D.C. declared Saturday, May 31, "Wilmington 10" day. The Wilmington 10 are Reverend Ben Chavis, eight youths, and a mother of two. They were convicted and sentenced in October 1972 to a total of 280 years for burning property with an incendiary device and conspiracy to assault emergency personnel with dangerous weapons.

The Wilmington 10 case is similar to other cases arising out of the civil rights struggle the past decade, many of which unfortunately have gone unnoticed. This case has received national publicity because of the context of the indictments, questionable judicial proceedings and the severity of the sentences. It deserves our attention because it raises serious questions about our criminal justice system: for example, whether these and other defendants like them have received the full protection of their sixth amendment right to an impartial jury and have been informed of the accusations against them; of their eighth amendment right not to be burdened by excessive bail; and of their 14th amendment rights to equal protection of the laws and to due process.

The indictments of the Wilmington 10 grew out of a situation of extreme racial tension in Wilmington, N.C. The schools had been desegregated a short time. Black students were complaining of racial prejudice in the high schools, of the dearth of black teachers and coaches and of the lack of courses on black culture. Eight black students staged a peaceful sit-in after their request for a program memorializing Martin Luther King, Jr. was ignored by school officials. When these students were suspended, others decided to boycott the schools. The Gregory Congregational Church was the center of the boycott activity. On Thursday night, February 4, 1971, the Reverend Eugene Templeton, who is white, receive numerous anonymous phone calls from persons who threatened

to bomb the church. A group of black students were determined to defend the church and the surrounding community. Reverend Chavis, who was active in the North Carolina civil rights movement, was invited to Wilmington by black leaders. The black community held a march to protest conditions in the schools.

Beginning on February 5 and continuing several days bands of white men, organized through the Ku Klux Klan and another vigilante group known as "Rights of White People," roamed the streets of the black neighborhood. Community leaders called on city officials to impose a curfew, but they received no response. Sniping, arson and slayings occurred. Three white men were arrested for being "armed to the terror of the populace." A black youth was killed by police. A store was burned down. After a white man was killed and three others were wounded, National Guardsmen were called in and a curfew was imposed. The highly regarded Charlotte Observer reported these events. One year later Reverend Chavis and nine others who had occupied the church during this period were indicted.

I recently had the privilege of chairing public ad hoc hearings in Washington on the criminal justice system. The Wilmington 10 case was one of three cases discussed. The hearings disclosed disturbing aspects of the court proceedings. The two key prosecution witnesses were serving sentences for assault with a deadly weapon and armed robbery and had received favored treatment by the Government. The original jury of 10 blacks and two whites had been dismissed after the prosecutor became ill and the judge declared a mistrial. A second jury of 10 whites and 2 blacks was impaneled. The major prosecution witness attempted in open court to assault the chief defense lawyer, yet the latter was reproached for provoking the former. The judge refused to sequester the prospective jurors during the voir dire—ABA standards, call for such action under circumstances similar to those in the case—and refused to allow defense lawyers to probe for prejudices towards the defendants—even though some of the prospective jurors admitted to hating them. The defendants were denied access to the pretrial statement of the key prosecution witness and were not told the names of witnesses prior to the day of their testimony.

Three weeks ago the North Carolina Supreme Court refused to review the Wilmington 10 case. The defendants are appealing their convictions to the U.S. Supreme Court. The Commission for Racial Justice of the United Church of Christ with its financial support has enabled them to do this. It is not appropriate at this time to pass judgment on the case though in the interest of justice the Wilmington 10 case deserves to be fully aired. I wish to share with my colleagues a commentary on the case by Colman McCarthy published last year in the Washington Post. It has not lost its relevance for today:

AT JUSTICE'S EXPENSE

One reason citizens often have little chance against government persecution or

harassment is the lack of money. They are priced out of the justice market, its expense far beyond the savings of common citizens.

Government prosecutors have a deep till of public money to reach into—as exemplified in the run of peace movement trials, with convictions rare—but the lone citizen is on his own.

In June, in Wilmington, N.C., a case will be appealed that illustrates both the importance of a defense fund and the ordeals of a citizen when the state appears ready to use the law less for social justice than for political vengeance. The case—the trial of the Wilmington 10—might be dismissed as a fluke breakdown of North Carolina's legal machinery, except it is part of a pattern suggesting that harassment of black civil rights workers has high priority in a state that ironically boasts of its New South image.

The central member of the Wilmington 10 defendants is the Rev. Ben Chavis. A young ordained minister with a chemistry degree from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, he is the Washington director of the United Church of Christ's commission for racial justice. The church itself is a denomination with a rich tradition of authentic social commitment.

Chavis is a native of Oxford, N.C., a fact which keeps him free of the "outside agitator" charge so often hung on civil rights workers. Nor have a number of other charges against Chavis stuck. In April 1968 he was charged in Charlotte with trespassing and held in \$200 bond; the charges were dismissed. In October 1970, he was charged in Henderson, N.C., for a faulty signal light (\$200 bond); the charge was dismissed. In April 1971 in Raleigh, he was charged with assaulting a police officer (\$500 bond); the charges were dismissed. In October 1971, a Wilmington judge declared him not guilty of driving an unregistered vehicle (\$500 bond). In December 1971 in Wilmington, he was acquitted of a charge of accessory after the fact in a murder case (\$100,000 bond). In April 1972, he was declared not guilty of aiding federal fugitives, not guilty of conspiracy against the U.S. government, and had charges dismissed for possession and manufacture of illegal firearms (\$20,000 bond). In January 1972, he was charged with running a stop sign, failing to show a registration card and disruption of public schools; he was eventually cleared of all charges. When he wasn't in jail awaiting one trial or another, Chavis was often hauled to courts in leg irons and waist chains; in addition, in one free period, his car was destroyed by a firebomb and he narrowly escaped death.

Because Chavis had a solid academic record and a commitment to nonviolent social reform, his ordeal was noticed within the state. A Charlotte Observer editorial called his treatment "harassment" and "persecution," and said that Chavis "is beginning to look more and more like the target of political rather than criminal prosecutions." The Observer noted what it called "a strange twist." When the federal government came after Chavis for aiding two fugitives to flee to Canada, it dropped charges against the fugitives. The newspaper likened this to "permitting the big fish to go free in hopes of catching the little fish." Although Chavis was acquitted in this case, his friend James Grant, a Penn. State Ph.D. in chemistry and a former VISTA worker in Charlotte, was convicted. He now does time in the Atlanta federal prison. The same government witnesses whose word led to Grant's being put away for 10 years were also the government's star witnesses in its case against Grant and two others, known as the Charlotte Three. Amazingly, as recently revealed by The Observer, the government's witnesses were secretly paid at least \$4,000 each by the Justice Department and were granted immunity from prosecution on several charges.

The upcoming appeal of Ben Chavis and the Wilmington 10 follows their October 1972 conviction on firebombing and conspiracy charges. Each in the group (eight were teen-aged students) received astonishingly severe sentences; for most, it will be 1994 before their minimum imprisonment has been reached. Chavis could be imprisoned until the year 2009. In the period of the alleged crime—early 1971—Wilmington was turbulent with racial unrest following desegregation of two high schools. Chavis came to Wilmington at the request of a white United Church minister, to help avoid potential violence by counseling the youth of the black community.

Even aside from the string of arrests and dismissals, friends of Chavis became suspicious of the state when a mistrial was declared. A jury of ten blacks and two whites had been accepted by the defense, with the prosecutor not yet agreeing. But when the latter suddenly announced that he was ill, and with no backup prosecutor available, the judge called a mistrial. A second trial—this time the jury make-up was reversed: ten whites and two blacks—convicted the group. An appeal was made, with bail at \$50,000. Chavis remained imprisoned for three months until the church raised bail; it was nine months in prison for the teen-agers until the church could raise money for them. Bail totaled \$350,000. In standing behind the group, the church followed its policy of providing money for its workers or local churches caught up in litigation. More, the church states that none of the Wilmington 10 has a criminal record. All maintain they are innocent. Competent attorneys are convinced there were serious errors in the procedures of their trial, errors in rulings by the judge and possible admission of tainted evidence.

Ben Chavis lives nervously these days. Currently working in Washington for the church that avidly believes in him, and taking theology courses at Howard University, he has seen his friends swept off to prison by the same techniques now used against him: the state's use of questionable witnesses, high bail and severe sentences. One of those interested in Chavis' case is Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.), a congressional Black Caucus member. Last year, a Conyers' aide, Stuart House, went to Wilmington to investigate. "Ben Chavis is an emerging black leader in North Carolina," House says. "But it's clear he's being railroaded. Some authorities see him a prime political whipping post. So they have charged him with all kinds of things, and they appear determined to get him one way or the other."

Will they? Chavis and his young friends should know shortly. Unlike the trials of the peace movement which were given much public attention—and thus exposing the government's weak cases, if not its raw political intentions—few beyond North Carolina know much about the Wilmington 10. But are these blacks defendants reduced to that: depending not on justice for their freedom but on publicity, and hoping it will shame North Carolina's white officials into backing off?

JUN 25 1975



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

JOHN CONYERS, JR.
1ST DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

June 23, 1975

Reverend Benjamin Chavis
Suite 200
1330 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Ben:

This is the least I can do to bring notice of the Wilmington 10 case to my colleagues.

I hope you are well. Keep me posted on developments.

With warm regards,


John Conyers, Jr.

Enclosure

Ms. Jean Farrow
Commission for Racial Justice
Suite 200
1330 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Ms. Farrow:

As you know I have taken a personal interest in the case of the Wilmington 10. I believe this case deserves to be fully aired.

I commend the United Church of Christ for supporting so generously and courageously the Reverend Benjamin Chavis and his co-defendants in their pursuit of justice.

With warm regards,


John Conyers, Jr.

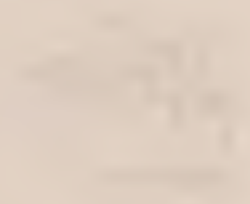
1/10/1918

Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th inst.

in relation to the above matter.

Yours faithfully,



Very truly yours,

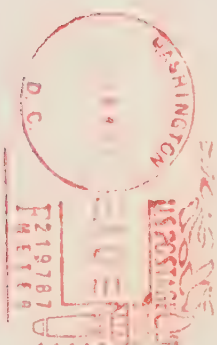
Yours faithfully,
J. H. [Name]

Enclosed for you are the documents referred to in my letter of the 27th inst.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COMMISSION FOR RACIAL JUSTICE
Washington, D.C. Office

1330 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005

Mr. Julius Hobson, Sr.
D.C. City Council Member
District Building
D.C. 20004



FOCUS



Watching cities go broke

THE THIRD NATIONAL INSTITUTE for Black Elected Officials (see page 3) promises to be one of the most significant events in recent years. Its theme is "Politics and The Black Economic Condition." Its objective is to develop strategies to make more effective use of the political system to improve the condition of black Americans.

Throughout history and in all parts of the world, minorities have taken political action to gain access to power, influence and economic benefits. In this country various groups have used political power and public office to open the doors of opportunity. This approach is as old as America and as American as apple pie.

The belief is widespread that now it is our turn. This belief has been triggered, in large part, by the convergence of two factors — one negative, one positive. On the negative side, the economic crisis is having a devastating and disproportionate impact on the nation's largest minority. There is no relief in sight. Here are a few harbingers of the future:

The President is calling for a cutback in funds for social programs while the Congress rolls over and plays dead. Both the Executive and Legislative branches predict a national unemployment rate of more than seven percent for the next couple of years, which means black joblessness will be about 15 percent nationwide and up to 40 percent in some areas. Black teenage unemployment has risen to an astronomical 43 percent over last year. The effects of such unprecedented unemployment may be seen in child care, education, health care, food and energy costs, business and community development, public safety, and in housing.

But even as our economic condition deteriorates, our political potential is increasing, and this is the positive factor. Since 1969 the number of black elected public officials has grown from 1,185 to 3,503, an increase of 196 percent. This impressive figure is still less than one percent of all elected officials. On other levels, blacks have moved into positions of unprecedented potential power

and, in general, they have become more active participants in the political life of this country.

ON THE WHOLE, there is a new and infectious political consciousness. We know that politics and economics go hand in hand and that political empowerment means more than registering, voting, and electing black and white candidates to office. It means making sure on a day-to-day basis that in fact we are represented and that we make our interests felt in the political system at all levels and at all times. We know, too, that the cost of political effectiveness is high, that the possibility of frustration is great.

But we also know that through effective political participation somebody always wins. It might as well be us. Given the nature of our political culture, our viability and survivability depend upon our becoming a strong competitor, among the various interest groups, which has the political power, skill and determination to influence policies and programs as well as the actions of our public officials.

To do this, we must develop strategies and tactics to convert our numerical minority status into a majority position which can set and change priorities. In practical terms this means we must increase our registration and voting rates. We must maximize our political potential as ten percent of the national electorate, 25 percent or more of the electorate in 60 congressional districts, and as the balance of power in numerous regions, states, and cities. We must become aggressive participants in all decision-making councils and in coalitions that suit our purposes. We must mold public opinion rather than be its victims.

It is this convergence of mounting economic deprivation and increasing political sophistication which has led to readjustments in our political perspective and to the national call for a nonpartisan leadership development institute in December, to ask not what others can do for us, but rather what we can do for ourselves.

Eddie N. Williams
President

FOCUS

Copyright © 1975 Joint Center for Political Studies. The monthly newsletter of the **Joint Center for Political Studies**, 1426 H Street N.W., Suite 926, Washington, D.C. 20005 (202) 638-4477 JCPS, sponsored by Howard University and the Metropolitan Applied Research Center, is a private, non-profit and non-partisan organization which provides research, education, technical assistance and information for the nation's black and other minority elected officials. Its objectives are to respond to minority group aspirations to participate in the political process, and to enhance their effectiveness at every level of government. The Joint Center does not fund or participate in voter registration, lobbying or campaigning. JCPS is funded by foundations, other organizations, and private gifts. Contributions are tax exempt.

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Invitations out for black institute

BOWING TO what seems to be the will of black elected officials all over America, eight national and regional organizations, which collectively represent the interest of a vast majority of the 3,503 black officeholders in the nation, have announced that they will sponsor a Third National Institute for Black Elected Public Officials.

The three-day national conference will be held in the nation's capital from December 11 to 13 to examine the roles, problems and opportunities of the black men and women who hold elective public offices in the United States. The general theme of the conference, to be headquartered at Washington's Sheraton-Park Hotel, is "Politics and the Black Economic Condition."

In announcing the institute at a September press conference, Eddie N. Williams, president of the Joint Center for Political Studies, asserted: "We are concerned that our special problems and special hurts are being neglected or ignored by those who will concede the existence of such problems, but insist that blacks must wait until everybody else is helped before we can be obliged." The Joint Center is one of eight sponsors of the Institute and is the coordinator of the meeting.

Other sponsors include, in alphabetical order: The Judicial Council of the National Bar Association, chaired by Cleveland (Ohio) Municipal Judge Sarah Harper; the Congressional Black Caucus, headed by Congressman Charles Rangel (D-N.Y.); the National Association of Black County Officials, whose leader is Richmond County (Ga.) Board of Commissioners Chairman Edward M. McIntyre; the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials, headed by Berkeley (Calif.) Mayor Warren Widener, with Atlanta (Ga.) Mayor Maynard H. Jackson serving as chairman-elect; the National Black Legislative Clearinghouse, led by Illinois State Sen. Richard Newhouse of Chicago; the National Caucus of Black School Board Members, headed by Dayton (Ohio) Board of Education member Leo A. Lucas; and the Southern Conference of Black Mayors, whose leader is Prichard (Ala.) Mayor A. J. Cooper.

Representing black officials elected by statewide balloting are U.S. Senator Edward W. Brooke (R-Mass.) and Lieutenant Governors George Brown of Colorado and Mervyn Dymally of California.

THE DECISION to convene a national institute of this nature was arrived at on August 28 when a broad cross-section of black elected officials and leaders of black-oriented public interest organizations met in Washington at the invitation of the Joint Center to explore the advantages that could flow to black America from a nonpartisan national meeting of black political leaders. The group directed the eight sponsoring groups to assess the feasibility of such a session. In early September another meeting of the group was convened, the "go" sign was flashed, and the Joint Center was instructed to coordinate the affair.

The meeting is designed as a "nonpartisan leadership development institute," and under no circumstances will the institute as a body nor any of its designated spokespersons endorse candidates or potential candidates for any office during the course of the conference.

Central to the session will be a frank assessment by black elected officials of the current state of black politics in the United States. In addition, there are expected to be spirited discussions of strategies for enhancing black effectiveness in the political process in 1976 and beyond. Equally important, the institute will encourage an exchange of ideas and experiences between black officials serving at various levels of government, with the aim of developing useful coalitions that will serve black political interests in years to come.

The conference will also attempt to develop clear black perspectives on vital policy issues confronting the nation, with special emphasis on economic problems such as unemployment, income, and the eroding black economy.

Not to be overlooked will be an effort of these elected leaders to project the fact that they, individually and collectively, are major forces in the civil rights movement today, and that broad, effective political participation at all levels of government is among the most important keys to the doors of opportunity for black people.

ACCORDING TO plans now in various stages of development, these and other matters will be considered in workshops designated for black elected officials only, as well as in plenary sessions that will be open to the press and to accredited observers, and on other appropriate occasions during the institute. Already black elected officials have signaled a specific interest in dealing with an issue that is straining the patience of minority politicians — the treatment of them by the communications media and by agencies with law enforcement responsibilities. They are also anxious to map strategies that will increase their political influence on all levels, to the point that their views will be given sympathy and weight in decision-making councils.

No matter what the specific discussion at the institute, the national economic crisis and its unique impact on black Americans will shadow every issue. "There is suspicion abroad," said Eddie Williams in announcing the institute plans, "that government at all levels is no longer capable of responding or willing to respond to the needs of a depressed black America. Many believe that those who wield the power which influences our system of government could care less about the black plight and that they indeed consider us a blight on the body politic."

THE FIRST NATIONAL meeting of black elected officials was held in Chicago in the fall of 1967 to provide participants with a forum to exchange ideas and to get acquainted personally. The group of elected blacks then was relatively small, and could be shoehorned into a modest hotel suite. A second institute held in Washington, D.C. in 1969 produced the consensus that led to the birth of the Joint Center for Political Studies.

In the six years since that second institute was convened, there have been dramatic advances in the number of black elected officials and significant increases in their influence and power. In 1969 the Joint Center's annual *National Roster of Black Elected Officials* listed 1,185 blacks holding elective office across the nation. By June 1975, that number was 3,503.

Watching cities go broke

By Carroll Harvey

Mr. Harvey is former director of the community renewal program of Washington, D.C., and former director of housing and community development in Gary, Ind. He is now a consultant to the Joint Center for Political Studies.

"NEW YORK is going broke," the headlines proclaim. The nation's largest city is reeling under the burden of several billions of dollars of accumulated debt, built up over the years as past city administrations borrowed from the future to take care of current bills. The future has become the present, and the city's credit has run out.

The prospect of declaring bankruptcy may not confront other city governments, but many of them are all too familiar with the dilemma that started New York down the road to insolvency: How do you pay the sharply rising costs of providing urgently needed services to increasingly impoverished residents when the city is already taxing its businesses and wage-earners as high as it dares?

In fact, the possibility of payless paydays and a halt in the flow of benefits to needy welfare recipients that faces New York is only the most dramatic example of an urban fiscal crisis that perplexes a number of city governments in the nation.

Hundreds of books have been written on the many causes for the financial plight of hard-pressed cities, and many plausible factors have been identified. They include the movement of poor people into central cities from more rural areas and the movement of industries out of many of the older cities, especially in the Northeast.

ONE FACTOR that has not always been remembered, however, is a historical one: the power of the cities to raise their own revenues was taken away after the American Revolution and given to the newly sovereign states. Local governments became creatures of the states. Many restrictions were imposed on the powers of local governments, most importantly on the power to tax.

Today this historical anti-city attitude has become of special concern to black people, since three out of every four black persons in the nation live in urban areas, mostly in central cities. The urban fiscal crisis has become, in many places, a crisis for black people and their elected representatives at every level of office.

More and more eyes have turned to Washington as the source of an answer to the fiscal problems of the city. The reason is simple: the federal government has money which to a large extent is raised in the central cities. It is much less restricted in its sources of tax revenues than are either states or municipal governments. For most intents and purposes, Congress has the power to levy any taxes it thinks it can get away with.

But the federal government has been changing its role lately. Over the past 40 years at least 47 major categories of legislation were put on the books that provide direct aid to municipalities, bypassing state governments. Many of those direct aid programs were designed to put the most money into the areas that needed it most. It is true that these programs never received enough funding to make the impact that they should have, but at least some priority

was given to central cities and other areas with high concentrations of the poor.

A NATIONAL POLICY of "direct federalism" was established by these programs of direct assistance to cities. Coupled with clear criteria based on need, this assistance policy had begun at least in part to offset the limitations cities felt in raising revenue.

In more recent years, however, the priority on aiding central cities has been diluted by the "new federalism" and various revenue sharing schemes of the Nixon and Ford administrations. Three programs of this type have been passed by Congress: State and Local Fiscal Assistance Act, which established general revenue sharing in 1972; the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, and the system for delivering social services set by Title 20 of the Social Security Act, passed last year.

All three programs veer away from using need as a criterion, and provide assistance to state governments rather than to city governments. The Housing and Community Development Act, for example, uses a formula which makes a community eligible to receive a set amount of money regardless of whether a demonstrated need exists for it.

The act contains a "hold harmless" clause, which guarantees that for the first three years of the program no city will receive less than what it received under the old program. But after the allocations are "phased down" to new levels, central cities as a group will start to receive significantly less money than they did before. By contrast, suburban communities as a group will start to receive much more — a whopping 90.8 percent increase, in fact.

For example, under the community development act's formula, economically depressed Newark, N.J., will take a 51.3 percent cut over the next five years, from \$20.5 million in the current fiscal year to only \$10 million by fiscal 1980. Other large central cities that will suffer reductions of 50 percent or more include Washington, D.C., down 61.4 percent; Camden, N.J., down 58.5 percent; San Francisco, down 55.3 percent; Boston, down 60.1 percent, and Minneapolis, down 62.1 percent. Only a handful of major cities will enjoy an increase under the new formula.

THE SECOND WAY in which "new federalism" programs work against central cities and their residents is by increasing the power of state governments to determine how money will be spent. This is called an attempt by the federal government to transfer responsibility to states; but its effect, in some places, is to make poor and minority persons suffer when states do not fully accept their responsibilities.

Title 20 of the Social Security Act is the best example of this. It defines a procedure for deciding which social services will be offered. That procedure gives tremendous authority to state governments. They determine which of the many possible services to children and to the disabled, elderly, or blind will be made available. Federal money is channeled to states which meet the planning requirements and which put up matching money of their own.

But the danger to the poor and disabled is made clear by the fact that some states have so far failed to ap-

propriate sufficient matching funds to meet their localities' needs. Apparently the rhetoric of "states' rights" is stronger than the willingness in some places to accept states' responsibilities.

This failure has in several instances hurt the efforts of largely-black cities to provide adequate services. The city of Prichard, Alabama, for example, obtained federal money to build a multi-service center that would house several needed social services under a single roof. When the city asked the state for money to operate the programs in the new building, it was told that the city itself would have to come up with the 25 percent matching funds because the state didn't have any money to match federal funds. What's more, the state wanted the city to pay 8 percent of the total to the state for "administrative costs."

Similarly, the city of Petersburg, Va., wanted to include a social services program as part of the first year of a community redevelopment plan. In this case, only 5 percent of the total amount would have been required in matching money from the state, but still the state said it had no money to pay that share. The social services component had to be dropped temporarily.

MOST OF the leverage to pressure state governments into providing more adequately for social services under Title 20 must come from the state's citizens (see *Focus*, May 1975). A mechanism for such citizen pressure was written into the Title 20 legislation, and it should be used.

Other problems caused by "new federalism" programs can be dealt with by Congress. That body is already beginning to consider the necessity for changes in the legislation that created general revenue sharing, which expires at the end of 1976.

Some proposals aim at relieving the plight of cities which need more money than they receive under the current formula. One, proposed by the Ford administration, would allow a city to receive an allocation that was as much as 175 percent of the per capita average of all allocations in its state, rather than only up to the current 145 percent. This loosening of the "ceiling" on a payment to a municipality is designed to help big cities which are the primary victims of the present ceiling. Another proposal, part of a bill introduced in the House by Rep. Robert Drinan (D-Mass.), would place the ceiling at 300 percent of the statewide average, and would remove the current "floor," which guarantees all municipalities at least 20 percent of the statewide average, whether they really need the money or not.

These might ease the pain a little, but the pinch would still be there. A more effective, if more drastic, method might be to allocate general revenue sharing money solely according to the number of persons living below the poverty level, with adjustments to take into account the level of prices in the area and also to reward cities which are already taxing themselves heavily to raise revenue.

ANOTHER MAJOR change in the current legislation would be to target the money to uses which come closer to meeting the needs of the poor, rather than handing over a

bundle of money and letting a town or city use it for such purposes as building golf courses.

One possible approach, contained in Rep. Drinan's bill, would require localities that receive at least \$500,000 each year in revenue sharing money to spend at least 10 percent of that money in each of six categories: public safety; environmental and consumer protection; public transportation; health and recreation; social services and housing for the poor, and social services and housing for the aged. States would be restricted to spending in these six categories plus that of education.

The need for some changes in the formula has become apparent to many members of Congress. After receiving a report on a study by the General Accounting Office on use of general revenue sharing money so far, Sen. Edmund Muskie (D-Maine) concluded that one of the major drawbacks was that a significant number of places receiving money did not have a pressing need for it.

THE PROBLEM is how to draft amendments that take care of congressional concerns but do not completely dump the basic concept of revenue sharing, one of which is to ease the financial burden on cities and to let most decisions be made at the local level.

According to an analysis by Donald W. Lief, director of the National Clearinghouse on Revenue Sharing: "The complexity of the allocation formula has kept legislative proposals for change to a minimum, although it is widely believed that there are technical changes which could serve to channel funds more heavily to communities and states with greater needs — whether measured by public service demands or by percentage of poverty households. Whether such changes will be introduced remains questionable."

If a new formula is devised, it might lay a basis for revision of the formula in the Housing and Community Development Act when that legislation comes up for renewal in two years. Here again, the three-part formula could be geared to more closely reflect the number of poor people in a jurisdiction, with costs and the level of tax efforts also taken into consideration.

OTHER MORE LONG-RANGE actions might include:

- Increasing the size of the revenue-sharing pie so that each city's piece is more nearly adequate.
- Encouraging states to reform their tax structures in a way that will aid hard-pressed cities.
- Reduce the share of federal tax money that is raised by taxes on individuals and boost the share that is paid by large corporations. The trend over the past 30 years has been for a smaller and smaller portion of federal revenues to come from corporations. The Ford administration's call for a tax reduction on corporate profits to stir economic activity is a step in the wrong direction. It will simply have the short-term effect of reducing the size of the federal revenue pie that would otherwise be available to distribute to localities.
- Require states and localities to equalize the amount of money they spend for services so that areas with large numbers of poor people receive as much or more money per capita as more affluent areas.

Food stamp battle looms

A CONGRESSIONAL BATTLE is ahead over attempts by conservatives to sharply cut back the food stamp program.

Ford administration officials have charged that the program has expanded "out of control," and a bill has been introduced which would have the effect, program supporters say, of cutting as many as 10 million persons off the food stamp rolls.

About 19.1 million persons were taking advantage of the food stamp program as of July 1975, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which administers it.

The program helps eligible families stretch their food budgets by permitting them to buy food stamps for a price pegged to the family's size and income. The family can then use the stamps to pay for food at the local grocery store. The difference between what the family pays and what the stamps are worth at the food store grows steadily smaller as the family's income goes up.

According to the Community Nutrition Institute (CNI) of Washington, "The current campaign against food stamps is based on several erroneous beliefs:

- "That families of four earning up to \$16,000 a year are eligible for food stamps;
- "That the food stamp program is wildly out of control; and
- "That the food stamp program is filled with cheaters and chiselers."

THE FACTS, said a report by CNI, are that official Agriculture Department figures show that 100 percent of the households receiving food stamps have annual incomes of less than \$10,000. Nearly half of the families earn less than \$3,000 a year, and only 13 percent of families have incomes of more than \$6,000 a year. Most of the families receiving stamps with incomes in the \$6,000 to \$10,000 bracket are large families of five persons or more.

While it is true that the food stamp program has multiplied in size since it began experimentally in 1962, CNI notes, this does not mean the program is "out of control." In fact, the reasons for its expansion are: 1) many counties began a food program for the first time ever in the late 1960s; 2) nearly 2,000 other counties shifted from the old surplus commodity program to food stamp programs, and 3) the sharp rise in unemployment since mid-1974 brought many families' incomes down to levels that made them eligible.

The Agriculture Department projects a natural reduction in the size of the program as economic conditions improve in coming years.

"The large majority of food stamp recipients are beneficiaries of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (who constitute about 45 percent of the food stamp caseload), Supplemental Security Income recipients, or families whose main wage-earner is unemployed," said CNI.

FINALLY, CNI labelled a "falsehood" the charge by Treasury Secretary William Simon that the food stamp program is "haven for cheaters and rip-off artists."

The fact, CNI said, is that Agriculture Department figures show that only 0.08 percent of the households receiving stamps do so fraudulently. A much larger "error rate" is caused by mistakes of caseworkers, most of them minor procedural slipups, and are not the fault of recipients. Because of such errors, an estimated 17 percent of food stamp recipients who are not also welfare recipients are not technically eligible for stamps.

DESPITE EFFORTS by CNI and other organizations to combat misconceptions about the program, Sen. James Buckley (Conservative-N.Y.) and Rep. Robert Michel (R-Ill.) have introduced bills that would sharply restrict the program. Their proposal would eliminate from the program all households with gross incomes above the poverty line; would end virtually all food stamp deductions, and would require most households to pay 30 percent of gross income to purchase the stamps. The average household now pays 24 percent of its *net* income, i.e., income after taxes and other deductions.

The proposal also makes the assets test more restrictive, and would prohibit households containing a student, a striker, or a person who has left a job "without good cause" from getting stamps.

Hearings on the bill were expected to be called by Sen. James B. Allen (D-Ala.), chairman of the research and general legislation subcommittee of the Senate Agriculture committee and a leading conservative. In the House, a bill to speed the food stamp certification process in areas with large backlogs could become a vehicle for amendments aimed at cutting the program.

ACCORDING TO CNI, "While the precise impact of the bill on food stamp participation is hard to determine, available data suggest that at least one-third to one-half of all current participants would have to leave the program."

"A U.S. Department of Agriculture report on food stamps estimates that eliminating income deductions would cut 23 percent of the participants out of the program," CNI noted. The bill would allow no deductions from gross income in figuring a household's eligibility, except for a \$25 monthly deduction for households with an elderly member. The other proposed restrictions would cut "millions of additional persons," CNI said.

Prospects for the bill beyond the subcommittee stage appeared uncertain, but CNI noted that this bill represented just one of many proposals to trim the food stamp program.

"A growing number of citizens, news reporters and legislators are coming to accept the anti-food stamp propaganda as fact, and Capitol Hill offices are reportedly deluged with anti-food stamp mail," CNI noted. Public officials and private groups concerned with poverty "will need to get to work immediately if millions of low-income persons are not to be cut adrift from food stamp assistance," the organization warned.

Community Nutrition Institute is located at 1910 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Mississippians bid for black votes

NOT SO LONG AGO, candidates for governor of the state of Mississippi vied to "outsege" one another, on the assumption that evidence of support for continuing segregation between blacks and whites would help their chances for election.

This year, the debate centers on which of three candidates will draw the greatest black support.

Latest evidence of this shift came in the campaign for the Democratic party primary runoff, held August 26. Candidates were Cliff Finch, an attorney from Batesville and a former state legislator, and Lt. Gov. William Winter.

Finch, who attempted to portray himself as the "working man's candidate" by driving bulldozers and digging ditches as part of his campaign, won the runoff with 57 percent of the total vote.

Although as a state legislator from 1960 through 1964 Finch had consistently supported then-Gov. Ross Barnett's segregation bills, this year he courted black support. He reportedly hired a former Jackson State University student body president to help with his campaign, and won an endorsement from Charles Evers, black mayor of Fayette.

Winter had a reputation as a racial moderate and won support of some black activists, including NAACP State Chairman Aaron Henry. But, in the analysis of Rims Barbour, research director of the Delta Ministry in Jackson, the Evers endorsement drew enough black votes to Finch in counties surrounding Fayette to cut Winter's statewide margin among black voters from what might otherwise have been about 70 percent down to about 55 percent.

THE QUEST for black support will undoubtedly intensify as the November general election approaches. For once, the Democratic candidate will face not only meaningful opposition from a Republican candidate, but also the threat that an independent black candidate may cut into his support.

On the Republican slate is Gil Carmichael, a Meridian auto dealer who has never held public office but whose face is known to voters from his TV commercials for his dealerships. Carmichael, who lost in a race against Democratic Sen. James O. Eastland in 1972, has obtained help from the only black person now in the state legislature, Democratic Rep. Robert Clark. Blacks frequently accompany Carmichael during his hand-shaking campaign tours, according to press reports.

The black independent candidate is Henry J. Kirksey, a writer and mapmaker who has been active in civil rights efforts, most notably as one of the plaintiffs in a court suit which has forced reapportionment of the state's legislative districts.

Political analysts are scratching their heads trying to predict which way the black vote will go in November. Blacks accounted for 31 percent of the voting age population of the state in the 1970 census, although their turnout has usually not reached that potential.

Barbour raised the possibility that Kirksey may draw as much as half the black vote, leaving Carmichael and Finch to split the white vote and the remaining black vote almost

evenly. This, he said, could deprive anyone of a majority and would, under the state constitution, throw the election into the legislature.

Whether that happens or not, "the results," in the words of one newspaper analysis, "should prove interesting."

On the mayoral front

ADD TO THE LIST of major black contenders for the office of mayor in large cities the name of W. Otis Higgs, Jr., of Memphis, Tenn.

Higgs, 38, a Criminal Court judge, made his entry into the race in a somewhat unusual way. Although he had acknowledged that he was considering the possibility of running, he said he had decided against it by the time the deadline for filing rolled around. Nevertheless, just 20 minutes before the deadline, a group of about 100 of his supporters walked into the Shelby County Election Commission office and handed a clerk a petition bearing the required numbers of names.

The signatures included that of Higgs, as required by law to make the petition valid. He had, according to news reports, approved the move only the night before. Higgs later made it known he was in the race to stay.

His chief opponents are the incumbent, Mayor Wyeth Chandler, and the man who was defeated by Chandler in the 1971 election, Juvenile Court Judge Kenneth A. Turner. Both are white.

ALTHOUGH Chandler is generally considered a conservative and Turner and Higgs are both thought likely to appeal to less conservative voters, all are making pitches for both black and white votes. Press reports note that Chandler, who received few black votes in 1971, has appeared before black political groups to seek their support. Turner reportedly has considerable black support as he did in 1971, while the chief campaign leaders for Higgs are a white former state senator and a black county legislator.

Memphis had a 39 percent black population in the 1970 census.

ELSEWHERE, a black Baptist minister and civic leader in Macon, Ga., surprised observers by securing a place on the ballot in the Democratic party runoff for mayor. The Rev. Julius C. Hope, state NAACP president, was defeated in the runoff on September 24, however. It was the first time a black had run for the office. He had placed second in a field of six candidates in the first primary.

And Howard N. Lee, mayor of Chapel Hill, N.C., has made all but the formal announcement that he will run for the Democratic nomination for lieutenant governor in 1976. He has stated he will not seek another term as mayor after his current term expires this year. Lee, who ran unsuccessfully for nomination to a seat in Congress in 1972, has been busy testing the political waters for a

Continued on page 8

statewide race and has reportedly found encouragement to take the plunge.

IN OTHER LOCAL races, factionalism among black politicians was blamed in part for the defeat of black candidate John W. Douglass in Baltimore's Democratic primary for comptroller. He was beaten by a 2-to-1 margin by the incumbent, Hyman W. Pressman. Douglass reportedly failed to gain support from some of the black political "clubs." The city's unique traditions place considerable power in such clubs, both black and white, which are formed primarily around leading personalities. The Democratic nomination is usually tantamount to election, because that party holds a 7-to-1 voter registration edge over the Republicans.

Anti-redlining bill passed in Senate

THE SENATE has passed and sent to the House a bill which requires lending institutions in metropolitan areas to disclose the amount of mortgage money they lend during the next three years for each zip code area in a city.

Passed by a vote of 45 to 37, the bill was designed to give citizen groups a lever to combat "redlining," a practice of limiting loans made in city neighborhoods where blacks or other minorities are moving in (see *Focus*, August 1975).

Written primarily by Banking Committee Chairman William Proxmire (D-Wis.), the bill was seen as a first step which would permit fair housing organizations to encourage sympathizers to invest their money in institutions which did not show signs of discrimination.

Supporters of the bill narrowly defeated a substitute bill which would have provided only a three-year demonstration survey of mortgage lending practices in 27 cities. The bill as passed by the Senate applies to 265 metropolitan areas.

The House Banking, Currency and Housing subcommittee has held hearings on a bill similar to that passed by the Senate, but has not moved a bill to the House floor.

Copies of the 1975 edition of the *National Roster of Black Elected Officials* are now available. To obtain your copy of this valuable reference source, send \$10 for each copy to Publications Department, JCPS, 1426 H Street, N.W., Suite 926, Washington, D.C. 20005. All orders for a single copy must be accompanied by payment. On orders for two copies or more, we will send a bill if you request, but postage and a 50 cent handling charge will be added to the bill.

Prichard mayor target of gunshots

PRICHARD (Ala.) Mayor A. J. Cooper was uninjured in a series of incidents in which shots were fired into his home.

In the most recent shootings in mid-August, police arrested the father of a white city police officer who was under investigation for alleged brutality involving a black youth. Earlier shots had been fired at the black mayor's house in June.

Cooper said there was no evidence linking any member of the city police department to the incidents. He said, however, he believed the shots were an attempt to scare him into weakening his stands on certain issues. He said they "will not affect my opinion."

The mayor last February temporarily suspended four policemen, including the son of the man arrested in the latest shooting. The four had been the subject of a complaint by black State Rep. John L. LeFlore to the U.S. Justice Department. LeFlore charged them with involvement in the beating of a black youth.

A county personnel board later ordered the four patrolmen reinstated, and Mayor Cooper had sought a court order to overturn that action shortly before the August shooting incident.



Joint Center for Political Studies

1426 H Street, N.W., Suite 926
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 638-4477

**ADDRESS
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REQUESTED**

NOTICE TO READERS: Please notify Focus of any change of address or title. YOU MUST INCLUDE YOUR OLD ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE along with your new address and zip code. No change can be made without this information.

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JULIUS ROBERTSON JR
CITY COUNCILMAN
DISTRICT BLDG
14TH & E STREETS NW
WASHINGTON DC 20004

Postmaster:
Form 3547 requested

FIRST CLASS MAIL

November 24, 1975

Mr. Albert A. Foer
Attorney at Law
Hogan and Hartson
815 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. Foer:

Mr. Ralph Temple of the American Civil Liberties Union suggested that I send you a copy of the draft of the "Police Intelligence Standards and Procedures Act of 1975" for your comments and suggestions.

I would appreciate any help you can give us on this legislation.

Sincerely,

Julius W. Hobson
Councilmember at-Large

Enclosure

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January 12, 1976

Dr. Hardy R. Franklin
Director
District of Columbia Public Library
901 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Dr. Franklin:

I regret very much that I will be unable to participate in the District's observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.,'s birthday on Thursday, January 15, 1976.

It is my sincere hope that students and other residents of the District of Columbia will take this opportunity to honor this most famous American.

Sincerely,

Julius W. Hobson

Mail Routing Slip

Date: _____

To: Council member Julius Hobson

Comments: _____

Pat Miner: _____

Lou Aronica: _____

Sandy Brown: _____

Lorraine McCottry: *reprint*

Alice Blue: _____

OF THE DIRECTOR

7, 1976

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

January 7, 1976

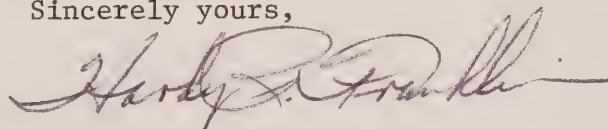
The Hon. Julius W. Hobson, Sr.
D.C. City Council
District Building, 5th Floor
14th and E Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Councilman Hobson:

The District's observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday will be held at 10:00 A.M., Thursday, January 15, 1976, in the Lobby of the Martin Luther King Memorial Library, 901 G Street, N.W. We should like to invite you to join us as a platform guest. The parking garage under the building will be open; it may be entered from 10th Street, through G Place.

I shall look forward to seeing you at this ceremony.

Sincerely yours,



Hardy R. Franklin, Ph.D.
Director

HRF:dm

1. The first part of the paper is devoted to a general discussion of the problem of the existence of solutions of the system of equations (1) for arbitrary values of the parameters α and β . It is shown that the system has solutions for arbitrary values of the parameters α and β if and only if the condition $\alpha + \beta > 0$ is satisfied. In this case the solutions are unique and can be found by the method of successive approximations.

2. In the second part of the paper the problem of the stability of the solutions of the system (1) is considered. It is shown that the solutions are stable with respect to the initial conditions if and only if the condition $\alpha + \beta > 0$ is satisfied.

3. In the third part of the paper the problem of the asymptotic behavior of the solutions of the system (1) is considered. It is shown that the solutions tend to zero as $t \rightarrow \infty$ if and only if the condition $\alpha + \beta > 0$ is satisfied.

January 12, 1976

Dr. Hardy R. Franklin, Director
D.C. Public Library
901 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Dr. Franklin:

On Monday, January 26, 1976, the Committee on Education, Recreation, and Youth Affairs will be conducting a public hearing on the FY 1977 Budget for the Department of Recreation, Office of Youth Opportunity Services and the Public Library.

The hearing is scheduled to begin promptly at 2:00 p.m. in Room 410 of the District Building. Mrs. Lorraine McCottry will be contacting you to verify the time of your testimony.

Sincerely,

JULIUS W. HOBSON
Chairman
Committee on Education, Recreation & Youth Affairs

Enclosure

January 12, 1976

Mr. Richard K. Fox, Chairman
Board of Higher Education
Suite 606
1025 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Fox:

On January 23, 1976, the Committee on Education, Recreation and Youth Affairs will be conducting a public hearing on the FY 1977 Budget for the District of Columbia Public Schools, Board of Higher Education, D.C. Teachers College, Washington Technical Institute and Federal City College.

I plan to receive testimony on the D.C. Public Schools budget during the morning session. I have scheduled the presentation and testimony on the institutions of higher education to begin at 2:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Mrs. Lorraine McCottry will be contacting you to verify the time of your testimony.

Sincerely,

JULIUS W. HOBSON
Chairman
Committee on Education, Recreation & Youth Affairs

Enclosure

June 21, 1976

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
10th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the Federal Privacy Act and the Freedom of Information Act, I am requesting full access to any information and records which the Federal Bureau of Investigation has compiled on me.

The basic information that is needed to process the request is as follows:

Name:	Julius Wilson Hobson
Social Security #	421-01-0885
Home Address	901 6th Street, S.W. #214 Washington, D.C. 20024
Date of Birth:	May 29, 1922
Place of Birth:	Birmingham, Alabama

I have been active in the civil rights movement since its inception as well as in the anti-war movement that organized itself during the late 1960's and early 1970's. The FBI has admitted to keeping files on civil rights and anti-war activists such as myself during that period. In addition, the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Police Department has also admitted to maintaining files on me and a number of other activists in the District of Columbia which were routinely transmitted to the Bureau.

Because of these facts I have sufficient reason to believe that I have been the subject of FBI surveillance and request full access to any records that have been compiled on/or about me.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Julius W. Hobson
Councilman at large

DRAFT

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
10th and Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20535

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Place of Birth:	Birmingham, Alabama

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Because of these facts I have sufficient reason to believe that I have been the subject of FBI surveillance and request full access to any records that have ^{been} compiled on or about me.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter

Sincerely,

1865-1866



*File President Ford
Subcommittee
(404)*

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20004

June 25, 1976

BY HAND

Honorable Gerald Ford
President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear President Ford:

It has come to our attention, but may not have come to yours, that the South African frigate, President Kruger, has been invited, with the approval of the Department of State, to participate in an international naval review to be held as part of the Bicentennial celebrations in New York harbor on July 3rd. Moreover, it is our understanding that a Chilean clipper, the Esmeralda, which allegedly was used as a torture chamber just after the present military regime in Chile seized power, will be participating in "Operation Sail" in that harbor on July 4th. It has been reported that the Esmeralda will have an honorary South African captain and personnel from South Africa's armed forces on board. The latter event will presumably be televised nationally and perhaps even internationally.

For the United States to permit the participation of naval vessels from these two countries in the above-mentioned Bicentennial events would be an utter debasement of the essence of our Bicentennial anniversary. Furthermore, it would tend to provide to the regimes in Pretoria and Santiago unmistakable comfort, acceptability and legitimacy from a public opinion standpoint.

We in the United States are dedicated to the principles of human dignity, liberty, racial justice and the observance of universally recognized standards of human rights. Within the world community, South Africa and Chile stand out uniquely as the very antithesis of all or most of these principles. Therefore, we, along with other citizens of the District of Columbia, are acutely offended by the proposed participation of these two countries in our national celebration, particularly South Africa. We are deeply offended not only because a substantial number of us are Black, and because in a spiritual sense we share the day to day brutal repression of our Black fellow men and women in South Africa, but also because all of us, both Black and white, feel a deep sense of shame that the United States Government would identify in this invidious and unnecessary way with the perpetrators of the international crime against humanity known as apartheid.

It was barely two months ago, Mr. President, that Secretary of State Kissinger, in his important April 27th speech in Lusaka, Zambia, described the policy of apartheid in the following terms:

"Apartheid in South Africa remains an issue of great concern to those committed to racial justice and human dignity....The world community's concern with South Africa is not merely that racial discrimination exists there. What is unique is the extent to which racial discrimination has been institutionalized, enshrined in law and made all pervasive."

Secretary Kissinger's keen observation impels us to ask: Is it fair to American Black naval officers to force them to submit to the humiliating and disrespectful act of sharing in a Bicentennial naval event with a country like South Africa whose racial and human rights policies are so abhorrent not only to the foreign policy makers of our Government but to the bulk of American citizens, as well? Moreover, is this an appropriate extension of our diplomatic responsibilities vis-a-vis South Africa?

We note with great dismay the recent demonstration near Johannesburg which developed into a race riot in which scores of Blacks were brutally killed and injured. This riot was almost certainly directly attributable to the gross and systemic pattern of injustices alluded to in Secretary Kissinger's speech. Our Government feeds the fires of new race riots by lending our symbolic and material support to a regime that is committed to the repugnant practices described by Dr. Kissinger.

Thus, we can conceive of no overriding reason that could justify permitting South African naval participation in our Bicentennial festivities. That country spurns what we stand for and mocks our commitment to the founding principles of this nation. An Act more consistent with the symbolic and concrete meaning of our Bicentennial would be for your Administration to effect the withdrawal of both South Africa's and Chile's invitations to participate in the New York harbor festivities. By so doing, we could indirectly prod those countries in more humanistic directions and thereby do them a good deed. For just as we have learned from our own difficult experiences, it is in the best short and long term interests of mankind as well as of nations to uphold the principles of human rights, racial justice and individual liberty. We are certain that the foregoing views are not only representative of the thinking of District of Columbia citizens but also that of the broad mainstream of the American public.

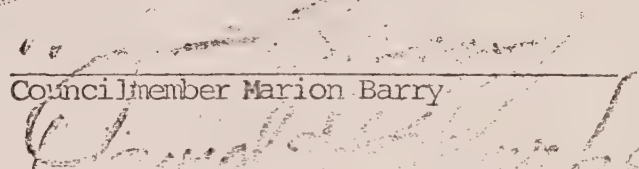
You are in a unique position, Mr. President, to exercise historic judgment. This will be the only centennial celebration that you and we will experience in our lives. Let us make it an occasion that all of us within the United States, regardless of race, can be proud of.

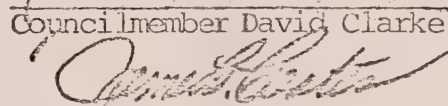
We therefore, as elected members of the D. C. City Council, respectfully urge you, Mr. President, to bar South Africa and Chile from participating in the aforementioned activities or to explain to the undersigned and to the people of the United States why such debarment is not possible. It is our hope to receive a response from you in advance of the date on which these activities are scheduled to begin.

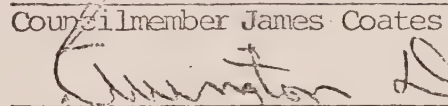
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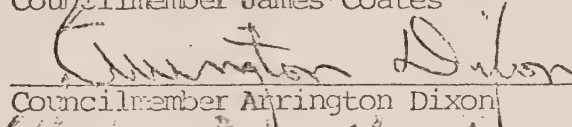
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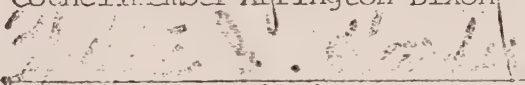
Honorable Henry A. Kissinger
Secretary of State
William E. Schaufele, Ass't
Secretary of State for
African Affairs
Hewson A. Ryan, Acting Ass't
Secretary of State for
Latin American Affairs
Congressman Walter E.
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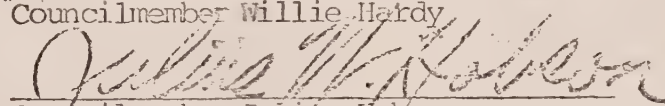

Councilmember Marion Barry

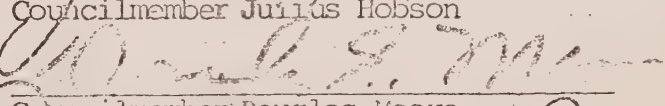

Councilmember David Clarke

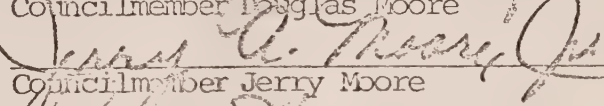

Councilmember James Coates


Councilmember Arrington Dixon



Councilmember Willie Hardy

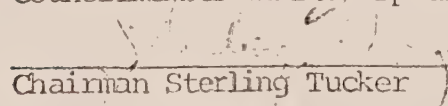

Councilmember Julius Hobson

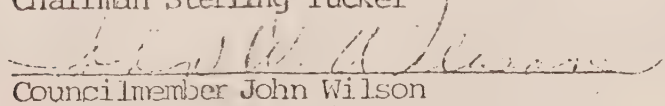

Councilmember Douglas Moore

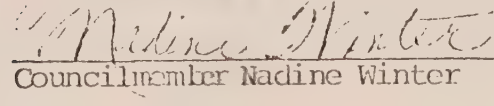

Councilmember Jerry Moore


Councilmember Polly Shackleton


Councilmember William Spaulding


Chairman Sterling Tucker


Councilmember John Wilson


Councilmember Nadine Winter

15

December 17, 1976

Mr. George W. Fellendorf, Ed.D
Executive Director
Alexander Graham Bell Association
for the Deaf, Inc.
3417 Volta Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007

Dear Mr. Fellendorf:

Enclosed is a draft copy of the "Practice of Audiology and Speech Pathology Act" which Councilman Hobson plans to reintroduce in January 1977. As you remember this bill was introduced in April 1976 but the City Council was unable to consider the legislation during the current session which ends this month, consequently all legislation which has not been acted upon lapses and must be reintroduced when the new legislative session begins in order to be considered by the Council.

We are asking for your support and would appreciate any comments or suggestions that you may have on the proposed bill.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Paul Sanders Brown
Executive Assistant
to Councilman Julius W. Hobson

Enclosure

December 17, 1976

Ms. Vivian Dempsey, Esq.
Director, State Legislation Office
American Speech and Hearing Administration
9030 Old Georgetown Road
Washington, D.C. 20014

Dear Ms. Dempsey:

Enclosed is a draft copy of the "Practice of Audiology and Speech Pathology Act" which Councilman Hobson plans to reintroduce in January 1977.

As you remember the bill was introduced in April 1976 but the City Council was unable to consider the legislation during the current session which ends this month. Consequently all legislation which has not been acted upon lapses and must be reintroduced when the new legislative session begins in order to be considered by the Council.

We are again asking for your support and would appreciate any additional comments or suggestions which you may have for improving the bill.

I appreciate your previous help and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Paul Sanders Brown
Executive Assistant to
Julius W. Hobson

Enclosure

